

THE *TRICYPHONA INCONSTANS* ON NANTUCKET
ISLAND, MASS.

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While collecting insects along the margin of Upper Hummock Pond, Nantucket, June 25, 1926, I collected some specimens of this common species. I did not examine these carefully until my return home and was then surprised to find that the two or three I had pinned had an unusual number of supernumerary cross-veins in the second submarginal cell (cell 4), whereupon I went over the sweepings from that locality and found in all 15 specimens, all having the supernumerary cross-veins confined to cell 4. The numbers of the supernumerary cross-veins in the right and left wings are given in the following table.

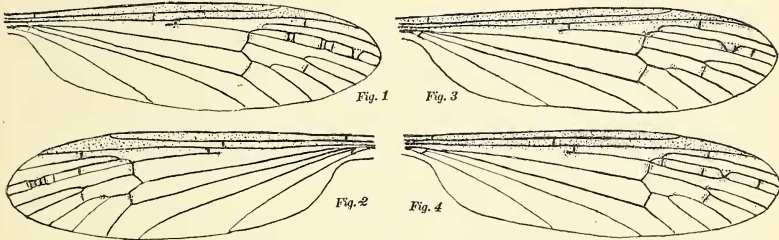
No. specimen	Right wing.	Left wing.
1 (Fig. 1).....	7.....	3
3.....	4.....	3
1.....	3.....	4
2.....	3.....	3
3.....	3.....	2
1.....	3.....	1
2.....	2.....	2
1.....	1.....	2
1.....	1.....	1

Visiting this place again on July 16 I was unable to find a single specimen. The locality was again visited June 7, 1927, and five were obtained showing the following variation.

No. Specimens	Right wing.	Left wing.
1 (Fig. 2).....	7.....	4
1.....	3.....	3
1.....	1.....	3
2 with normal variation.		

On June 22, 1927, at the same locality 18 specimens were taken, showing the following variation.

No. specimens.	Right wing.	Left wing.
1.....	4.....	6.....
1.....	5.....	2.....
1.....	4.....	4.....
2.....	4.....	3.....
1 (Fig. 3).....	3.....	4.....
2.....	3.....	3.....
1 (Fig. 4).....	5.....	2.....
1.....	4.....	1.....
1.....	3.....	2.....
1.....	2.....	3.....
1.....	2.....	2.....
2.....	1.....	2.....
1 with normal venation.		
1 with discal cell open on the left wing.		
1 with the first submarginal cell (cell 3) normal on the right wing, but on the left wing of the same length as cell 4.		



Figs. 1-4. Wings of *Tricyphona inconstans*.

In 1901 I published a paper on the variation of this species (*Entom. News*, vol. 12, p. 305) but the material at hand was from various localities and as usual only a small percentage of the specimens taken showed abnormal venation. To find therefore a locality where the conditions were reversed seemed very remarkable, and that the supernumerary veins should all be confined to cell 4 was likewise interesting. In examples where the supernumeraries are numerous or where some of them are oblique there is a tendency for the longitudinal veins to be imperfect. This part of the vein is indicated by dots in the accompanying figures. If this species could be readily bred it would form an interesting subject for a study in genetics.